

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9283

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: TECH OECD

SUBJECT: OECD/ NEA STUDY GROUP ON LONG- TERM ROLE OF NUCLEAR  
ENERGY ( NELT) - CONTRIBUTION TO OECD REVIEW OF LONG-  
TERM ENERGY POLICIES AND RELATED QUESTIONS

1. SUMMARY. WORK PROGRAM AGREED AT APRIL 3-4 MEETING INCLUDES  
STUDY TO BE COMPLETED BY END 1973 ON ( A) LONGER- TERM AVAILABILITY  
OF NUCLEAR FUEL, ( B) TRENDS IN COSTS OF NUCLEAR POWER, ( C)  
CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS, ( D) INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY. THIS STUDY  
TO ASSESS CONSEQUENCES FOR OECD AREA UNTIL 1985 AND GIVE  
TREND INDICATIONS UP TO 2000. NEXT NELT MEETING SCHEDULED  
FOR JUNE 26-27 TO EXAMINE SECRETARIAT DRAFTS ON ( A) AND PART  
OF ( B) AS WELL AS PLAN OF ATTACK ON REST OF STUDY ITEMS.  
ACTION REQUESTED: COMMENTS ON STUDY OUTLINE AND INFO AS  
REQUIRED IN PARA 7 ASAP. END SUMMARY.

2. APRIL 3-4 MEETING OF NELT STUDY GROUP, CHAIRED BY  
ALER ( SWEDISH REP TO NEA STEERING COMMITTEE), ATTENDED  
BY 16 OECD MEMBER COUNTRY REPS ( INCLUDING JAPAN AND  
AUSTRALIA), PLUS EC COMMISSION AND IAEA PARTICIPANTS. . OBJECTIVE  
WAS FORMULATION CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL OECD ENERGY STUDY  
WHEREINDNEA TO FOCUS ON FEW SELECTED MAJOR PROBLEMS CONNECTED  
WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMS UNDER DIFFERENT  
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GROWTH HYPOTHESES FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY, NE(72)18 . GUIDELINES  
FOR STUDY PROVIDED AT FEB 1, 1973, NEA STEERING COMMITTEE  
MEETING, ITEM 3 B OF NE/ M(73)1.

3. FORTHCOMING DRAFT REPORT ON URANIUM RESOURCES, PRODUCTION  
AND DEMAND PROVIDES BASIS INFO FOR SUBJECT NELT STUDY. THIS  
DRAFT REPORT, TO BE ISSUED BY END APRIL, POSSIBLY TABLED AT  
MAY 3 NEA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, GIVES INDICATIONS OF  
POSSIBLE VARIATIONS DEMAND/ SUPPLY SITUATION FOR PERIOD  
1970-90. SECTIONS THIS REPORT, STILL UNDER REVISION, TABLED  
AT APRIL 3-4 NELT MEETING FROM JOINT NEA/ IAEA WORKING PARTY  
ON U RESOURCES AND NEA WORKING PARTY ON U DEMAND.  
REPORT TO BE PUBLISHED ASAP ( SUMMER 1973) AFTER NEA STEERING  
GROUP MEETING THROUGH APPROVAL BY WRITTEN PROCEDURES.

4. NELT HIGHLIGHTED THEIR INTEREST IN CONTRIBUTING TO OVERALL OECD  
STUDY BECAUSE 1985 " CRUNCH" MAY POINT UP CHANGES IN  
RELATIVE PRICES HAVING POSSIBLE IMPACT FOR UNDERTAKING  
NUCLEAR POWER CRASH PROGRAM. NEW TASK FOR NELT IS TO  
TAKE AVAILABLE DATA FROM SUPPLY/ DEMAND REPORT ( PARA 3 ABOVE) ,  
EXTEND DREND INDICATIONS TO ABOUT 2000, IDENTIFY PROBLEMS  
AND BOTTLENECKS UNDER VARIOUS OPTIONS WITH INCLUSION OF  
CRASH PROGRAM (50-0/0 INCREASE) TO ILLUSTRATE SUCH POTENTIAL  
PROBLEMS. FOLLOWING OMPLETION FIRST FINDINGS OVERALL OECD  
STUDY, NELT COULD COME BACK AND REEXAMINE DEMAND/ SUPPLY/  
CAPACITY ISSUES.

5. MANY NELT REPS DEPLORED FACT OECD HAD NOT ESTABLISHED  
CENTRAL UNIT AND HIRED HIGH- LEVEL CONSULTANT TO OVERSEE  
OVERALL STUDY FROM WHICH NELT NEEDED GUIDANCE WITH RESPECT  
TO VARIOUS RATES ECONOMIC GROWTH AND REQUIREMENTS ON ENERGY  
GROWTH. CLOSE LIAISON TO BE ESTABLISHED WITH AD HOC  
ELECTRICITY GROUP ( TO MEET MAY 2) OF OECD ENERGY COMMITTEE  
WITH POSSIBILITY OF SEEKING FORMULATION JOINT EFFORT TO OVERSEE  
COST STUDIES FOR ALL ELECTRICAL GENERATING CAPACITY.

6. AGREED NELT WORK PROGRAM AS FOLLOWS:

( A) LONGER- TERM AVAILABILITY OF NUCLEAR FUEL: LOW  
COST RAW MATERIAL, CHEMICAL CONVERSION CAPACITY, ENRICH-  
MENT CAPACITY, FUEL FABRICATION CAPACITY, CHEMICAL  
REPROCESSING CAPACITY.

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( B) TRENDS IN COSTS OF NUCLEAR POWER

- (1) FUEL CYCLE
- (2) POWER STATION CAPITAL COSTS
- (3) OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, OTHER RUNNING COSTS

(C) CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

(D) INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY ON REGIONAL BASIS ( NORTH  
AMERICA, EUROPE, JAPAN)

7. SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE DRAFTS ON 6 A, 6 B(1) FOR NEXT  
NELT MEETING, JUNE 26-27. INFO TO BE SOUGHT ON INDUSTRIAL  
ITEMS FROM FORATOM, AIF, JAIF AND OTHER SOURCES. NELT REPS  
REQUESTED TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES ( BY END APRIL) FOR TASK  
FORCE TO ASSIST SECRETARIAT PREPARE PLAN OF ATTACK ON 6 B(2),  
6 B(3), 6 C AND 6 D. THIS TASK FORCE MAY MEET JUNE 25.  
MEMBER COUNTRIES REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL AVAIL-  
ABLE INFO ON 6 A TO EXTEND SUPPLY / DEMAND TREND INDICATIONS  
TO YEAR 2000 ( SEE PARAS 3,4 ABOVE).

8. STUDY OUTLINE AND DRAFT SUPPLY/ DEMAND REPORTS AIRPOUCHED  
STATE/ RPE, AEC( BURKE), USMISSION BRUSSELS.  
BROWN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

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